

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's Office Action of June 30, 2008 issued in relation to the present Patent Application, the Applicant submits Amendments to the claims, as well as the below Remarks.

Claims 1, 3-9, 11-29, and 31 to 43 are presented for examination. Claims 1 and 24 are independent claims.

Regarding Amendments

Claims 1, 11, and 24 have been amended. Claims 10 and 30 have been cancelled from the application.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate therein the features from former claim 10.

Claim 24 has been amended to incorporate therein the features from former claim 30.

Claim 11 has been amended to change its dependency.

Regarding 35 USC 103 Rejections and Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 3-5, 12-14, 16-18, 21-25, 32-34, 36-38 and 41-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fiordelisi (US 6,435,407) in view of Bridgelall et al. (US 5,637,856).

Claims 6-9, 26-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fiordelisi in view of Bridgelall et al., and further in view of Blauer (US 6,484,939).

Claims 15 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fiordelisi in view of Bridgelall et al., and further in view of Loof (US 6,507,279).

Claims 19, 20, 39 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fiordelisi in view of Bridgelall et al., and further in view of Albert et al. (US 4,436,991).

Claims 10, 11, 30 and 31 are objected to for being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Former claims 10 and 30 have been rewritten in independent form by incorporating their features into independent claims 1 and 24 respectively. Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 24 as amended are allowable.

As the independent claims are allowable, it is submitted that all the presented claims are allowable.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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